



NOTICES OF FINAL EXEMPT RULEMAKING

This section of the Arizona Administrative Register contains Notices of Final Exempt Rulemaking. The Office of the Secretary of State is the filing office and publisher of these rules.

Questions about the interpretation of the final exempt rule should be addressed to the agency proposing them. Refer to Item #5 to contact the person charged with the rulemaking.

NOTICE OF FINAL EXEMPT RULEMAKING

TITLE 4. PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

CHAPTER 24. BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

[R15-53]

PREAMBLE

- 1. Article, Part, or Section Affected (as applicable) Rulemaking Action
2. Citations to the agency's statutory rulemaking authority to include the authorizing statute (general) and the implementing statute (specific), and the statute or session law authorizing the exemption:
3. The effective date of the rule and the agency's reason it selected the effective date:
4. A list of all notices published in the Register as specified in R1-1-409(A) that pertain to the record of the exempt rulemaking:
5. The agency's contact person who can answer questions about the rulemaking:
6. An agency's justification and reason why a rule should be made, amended, repealed, or renumbered to include an explanation about the rulemaking:



standard of course approvers which can be achieved in entry level education and post graduate education. The standards set minimum coursework which must be achieved and a minimum number of hours of contact education; however, the restrictions take into consideration the private sectors current educational format of a tiered training and education process. The rule mandates courses verify the licensee retention of knowledge through written and practical examination. Also, the licensee is required to provide documented proof of meeting the standards, but does not require a certification or permitting process. Finally, the rule establishes a minimum standard of care already reflected in R4-24-301 and 303; therefore, the standard of care in the rule is not an increased burden on the licensees.

7. **A reference to any study relevant to the rule that the agency reviewed and either relied on or did not rely on in its evaluation of or justification for the rule, where the public may obtain or review each study, all data underlying each study, and any analysis of each study and other supporting material:**  
No study conducted
8. **A showing of good cause why the rulemaking is necessary to promote a statewide interest if the rulemaking will diminish a previous grant of authority of a political subdivision of this state:**  
Not applicable
9. **The summary of the economic, small business, and consumer impact, if applicable:**  
Not applicable
10. **A description of any changes between the proposed rulemaking, including any supplemental proposed rulemaking, and the final rulemaking package (if applicable):**  
Not applicable
11. **An agency's summary of the public or stakeholder comments made about the rulemaking and the agency response to the comments, if applicable:**  
The Board conducted a public survey of the draft rules from April 2, 2015 to May 2, 2015. Although the Board was not required to accept public comment on the rules, the survey was conducted and public comment in person was accepted on May 19, 2015. The results of the survey have been posted to the Board's website in the News and Events page of the website. The public may review the survey and comments at <https://ptboard.az.gov/news-events>.
12. **Any other matters prescribed by statute that are applicable to the specific agency or to any specific rule or class of rules. When applicable, matters shall include, but not be limited to:**
  - a. **Whether the rule requires a permit, whether a general permit is used and if not, the reasons why a general permit is not used:**  
Not applicable
  - b. **Whether a federal law is applicable to the subject of the rule, whether the rule is more stringent than the federal law and if so, citation to the statutory authority to exceed the requirements of federal law:**  
Not applicable
  - c. **Whether a person submitted an analysis to the agency that compares the rule's impact of the competitiveness of business in this state to the impact on business in other states:**  
None filed
13. **A list of any incorporated by reference material and its location in the rule:**  
Not applicable
14. **Whether the rule was previously made, amended, repealed or renumbered as an emergency rule. If so, the agency shall state where the text changed between the emergency and the exempt rulemaking packages:**  
Not applicable
15. **The full text of the rules follows:**

#### TITLE 4. PROFESSIONS AND OCCUPATIONS

#### CHAPTER 24. BOARD OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

#### ARTICLE 2. LICENSING PROVISIONS

Section  
R4-24-208. License or Certificate Renewal; Address Change

#### ARTICLE 3. PRACTICE OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Section  
R4-24-313. Professional Standards of Care and Training and Education Qualifications for Delivery of Dry Needling Skilled Intervention



ARTICLE 2. LICENSING PROVISIONS

**R4-24-208. License or Certificate Renewal; Address Change**

- A.** No change
  - 1. No change
    - a. No change
      - i. No Change
      - ii. No Change
      - iii. No Change
    - b. No change
    - c. No change
    - d. No change
    - e. No change
    - f. No change
    - g. No change
    - h. No change
    - i. No change
    - j. No change
    - k. No change
      - i. No change
      - ii. No change
      - iii. No change
    - l. No change
      - i. No change
      - ii. No change
      - iii. No change
    - m. No change
    - n. No change
    - o. No change
    - p. If a licensee, a statement of whether the licensee has completed the dry needling course content requirements in A.A.C. R4-24-313.
  - 2. No change
  - 3. No change
  - 4. No change
- B.** No change
- C.** No change
  - 1. No change
  - 2. No change
- D.** No change
- E.** No change

ARTICLE 3. PRACTICE OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

**R4-24-313. Professional Standards of Care and Training and Education Qualifications for Delivery of Dry Needling Skilled Intervention**

- A.** Effective July 1, 2015 and in accordance with A.R.S. § 32-2044(25), a physical therapist shall meet the qualifications established in subsection (C) before providing the skilled intervention “dry needling”, as defined in A.R.S. § 32-2001(4).
- B.** A physical therapist offering to provide or providing “dry needling” intervention shall provide documented proof of compliance with the qualifications listed in subsection (C) to the board within 30 days of completion of the course content in subsection (C) or within 30 days of initial licensure as a physical therapist in Arizona.
- C.** Course content that meets the training and education qualifications for “dry needling” shall contain all of the following:
  - 1. The course content shall be approved by one or more of the following entities prior to the course(s) being completed by the physical therapist.
    - a. Commission On Accreditation In Physical Therapy Education.
    - b. American Physical Therapy Association.
    - c. State Chapters Of The American Physical Therapy Association.
    - d. Specialty Groups Of The American Physical Therapy Association, or
    - e. The Federation of State Boards Of Physical Therapy.
  - 2. The course content shall include the following components of education and training:
    - a. Sterile needle procedures to include one of the following standards:
      - i. The U.S. Centers For Disease Control And Prevention, or
      - ii. The U.S. Occupational Safety And Health Administration



- b. Anatomical Review.
- c. Blood Borne Pathogens
- d. Contraindications and indications for “dry needling”.
- 3. The course content required in subsection (C) of this Section shall include, but is not limited to, passing of both a written examination and practical examination before completion of the course content. Practice application course content and examinations shall be done in person to meet the qualifications of subsection (C).
- 4. The course content required in subsection (C) of this subsection shall total a minimum of 24 contact hours of education.
- D.** The standard of care for the intervention “dry needling” includes, but is not limited to the following:
  - 1. “Dry needling” cannot be delegated to any assistive personnel.
  - 2. Consent for treatment for the intervention “dry needling” is the same as required under R4-24-301.
  - 3. Documentation of the intervention “dry needling” shall be done in accordance with R4-24-304.